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SHANGHAI UNEMPLOYED SENT
 TO START NEW COLLECTIVES

13,000 SENT TO KIANGSU -- Nanking Hsin-hua Jih-pao, 23 May 50

Shanghai -- The Shanghai People's government has decided to send some 13,000 unemployed, refugees, and reformed criminals in the Shanghai area to clear land and build new people's villages in the reclaimed area in northern Kiangsu Province. The reclaimed area, where the new people's villages are being built, is located in T'ai-pei Hsien and includes the region of the Sang-yu Ho and south of Hsia-ming-cha. It has some 20,000 mou (one mou equals 1/6 acre) of cultivated land and 190,000 mou of virgin area.

The new people's villages will be developed into centers for a rich cotton-growing area. Handicraft industries and supplementary occupations will also be introduced, and the farms will be operated under New China's collectivism system. According to present estimates, the yield per mou of cotton from land already under cultivation may reach 50 to 80 shih-chin (one shih-chin equals about 1.33 pounds), and from newly reclaimed areas, about 40 to 60 shih-chin.

The construction of the new people's villages began at the end of April 1950. The Tung-t'ai and T'ai-pei hsien governments mobilized all available engineers, carpenters, etc., to build the new villages. By early May, some 130 houses were completed.

On 13 March 1950, the first contingent of 2,791 people left Shanghai to move into these villages. In the central village of Ssu-ch'a-ho, 60 new settlers have already moved into the newly constructed houses. The local populace are, at present, teaching the new settlers the techniques of clearing land, selecting seeds, and weeding.

There will be 6,000 houses and 10 new villages. Six new villages have been already completed. Each village will cover 190 mou and will include 480 houses, constructed in 32 rows. The houses can accommodate 1,440 persons. In addition, each village will have a village government, school, library, newspaper office, cooperative, dining hall, warehouses, farm equipment

CONFIDENTIAL

- 1 -

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sheds, assembly and recreational halls, and vegetable-drying facilities. The area surrounding the village will have parks and vacant lots where animals and fowls can be raised.

Spring plowing is now in progress. Some 1,000 farm animals were rounded up from Tung-t'ai and T'ai-pei hsien so that plowing could be completed in two shifts. The first shift will require 500 animals and 15 clear days to complete; the second shift will require 6 clear days. Unemployed workers from Hsing-hua Hsien were sent to the villages to cut grass. To facilitate the plowing, the first shipment of plowing equipment has reached the new villages from Shanghai.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF PROBLEM SERIOUS IN SHANGHAI -- Hong Kong Hsing-tao Jih-pao, 19 Jul 50

Unemployment is increasing in Nanking, Wuhan, Chungking, Canton, and Shanghai. The situation in Shanghai is especially serious. According to government data, of the one million industrial workers in Shanghai, 161,937 persons are unemployed and 70,166 are partially unemployed. There are no reliable figures on the number of unemployed among nonindustrial workers. It is presumed, however, that about 23 percent of the approximately one million non-industrial workers are unemployed. The total unemployment in Shanghai, therefore, is about 500,000 and affects some one million persons.

On 18 July 1950, the Government Administration Council issued the Unemployed Workers' Relief Regulations which call for issuing of 45 to 90 catties of food to each unemployed person per day. At the minimum of 45 catties, it would require 22,500,000 catties of food per month for the 500,000 unemployed in Shanghai. This amount is equivalent to 30 billion yuan.

The Central government has thus far issued 20,700,000 catties of food to the Shanghai unemployed. This amount was enough for only one month. Shanghai also received donations of 10 billion yuan, enough for 10 days' relief. From 22 April to 7 June 1950, 820,000 catties of foodstuff were collected, but only 20,000 unemployed were benefited.

Various steps are being taken to help the unemployed, but these efforts are not enough to cope with the situation. The nonferrous metallurgical industry organized a cooperative factory and hired 800 unemployed. Similar steps were taken by the garment and dyestuff industries. The government also helped by sending 10,000 unemployed back to their native villages; this cost 67,000 catties of foodstuff and 120 million yuan in transportation fees.

The first "work-in-exchange-for-provisions" movement was started on 15 July 1950. Some 237 unemployed were used to do repair work in Chung-shan and Hung-k'ou parks. Each person received 5 catties of rice per day as wages.

The Shanghai General Labor Union has helped some 8,700 unemployed find work in urgent projects, in collecting taxes, etc. Some were sent to the Northeast to work in various factories. The department stores union helped find employment for 465 persons; the rubber industry union gave employment to 56 persons in a state-owned rubber factory; the building industry union sent 150 unemployed to Peiping to do construction work; and the cigarette industry union placed 124 persons in cigarette factories.

NORTHEAST NEEDS MORE WORKERS -- Nanking Hsin-hua Jih-pao, 22 May 50

Mukden, 20 May (Hsin-hua) -- Incomplete data of the Ministry of Labor, Northeast People's government, shows that during the first quarter of 1950

- 2 -

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50X1-HUM

there were some 100,000 workers participating in production and construction activities in the state-owned factories and mines in Northeast China. The number does not include the more than 100,000 temporary workers. Demands for workers in public-owned enterprises are especially great. In Ying-k'ou alone, there are some 2,529 such workers.

Most of the workers were recruited from other areas of China by the Northeast Labor Recruiting Committee in cooperation with various employment agencies. At the Mukden Labor Employment Office, the number of persons in search of work averaged 60 to 70 each day. From 13 December 1949 to 22 April 1950, the office placed 4,000 persons in various industries. During January-March 1950, the Pen-ch'i Coal and Iron Company employed 1,890 technicians and 8,199 unskilled workers from various areas of China. The An-shan Iron and Steel Company employed more than 9,900 workers. The above cases clearly indicate that large-scale construction work is now being pursued in the Northeast. Most of the unemployed salesmen, merchants, and pedicab operators, who migrated to cities in the Northeast are, at present, working in factories and mines. More workers are being recruited from China proper. Even the farmers in the Northeast are being encouraged to work in industries.

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- 3 -

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